

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows. Note that all claims currently pending in this application including those presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiners convenience. A marked-up copy showing the changes made to the claims is attached as an appendix.

1. (Five Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:

folder retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders, each of the folders storing at least one document and existing at a position in a sort structure;

new document retaining means for retaining a new document;

candidate folder selecting means for selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored, by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders;

notifying means for notifying said a plurality of candidate folders selected by said candidate folder selecting means to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of candidate folders, without changing the position in the sort structure.

3. (Unamended From Previous Version) A document processing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the

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new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

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F3  
4. (Five Times Amended) A document processing system comprising:  
judging means for judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of documents stored in folders existed at a position in a sort structure;

similarity order calculating means for calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity degree judged by said judging means; and

notifying means for notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order calculated by said similarity order calculating means to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders, without changing the position in the sort structure.

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8. (Unamended From Previous Version) A document processing system according to Claim 5, wherein said selecting means selects the folder through statistical estimation using the number of information sets of documents belonging to the folder and the number of documents matching the search condition.

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9. (Five Times Amended) A document processing method comprising

the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders, each of the folders storing at least one document folders and existed at a position in a sort structure;

retaining a new document;

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored, by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders; and

notifying said a plurality of candidate folders selected in said selecting step to a user; and

storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from said a plurality of candidate folders, without changing the position of the sort structure.

10. (Five Times Amended) A document processing method comprising

the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of documents stored in folders existed at a position in a sort structure;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity degree judged in said judging step; and

notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order calculated in said calculating step to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders, without changing the position in the sort structure.

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11. (Five Times Amended) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders, each of the folders storing a plurality of sets of document information and existed at a position in a sort structure;

retaining a new document;

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored from among the plurality of folders based on a number of sets of document information containing a keyword inputted as a search condition; and

notifying said a plurality of candidate folders selected in said selecting step to a user; and

storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from said a plurality of candidate folders, without changing the position in the sort structure.

12. (Five Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

retaining a plurality of folders, each of the folders storing at least one document and existed at a position in a sort structure;

retaining a new document;

PS selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored, by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders;

notifying said a plurality of candidate folders selected in said selecting step to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders, without changing the position in the sort structure.

13. (Five Times Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of a plurality of documents stored in a folder, folders existed at a position in a sort structure;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

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notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order  
calculated in said calculating step to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder  
selected by the user from the plurality of folders, without changing the position in the sort  
structure.

15. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim  
9, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are  
selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

16. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according  
to claim 12, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document  
are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

17. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim  
1, further comprising means for updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of  
the new document in the candidate folder.

18. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim  
1, wherein the document includes vector data.

19. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 1, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

20. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means displays a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

21. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes text data.

22. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

23. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

24. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, wherein the document includes vector data.

25. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

26. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

27. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, wherein the document comprises text data.

28. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

29. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

30. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document includes vector data.



31. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

32. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

33. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document comprises text data.

34. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said steps further comprise the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

35. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means provides notification only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

36. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 4, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided by said notifying means.

37. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means displays a label set in advance to the selected folder.

38. (Unamended From Previous Version) A system according to claim 4, wherein the document includes text data.

39. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 10, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

40. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 10, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

41. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 10, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

42. (Unamended From Previous Version) A method according to claim 10, wherein the document includes text data.

43. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

44. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

45. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

46. (Unamended From Previous Version) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document includes text data.